

Department of Foreign
Affairs and International Trade



Ministère des Affaires
étrangères et du Commerce international

JLO-0111

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's Diplomatic Note No. 310 of March 26, 2003, in which, pursuant to the terms of the *Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on Arctic Cooperation* signed on January 11, 1988, the Government of the United States requests the consent of the Government of Canada for the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Healy* to navigate within waters covered by the *Agreement*, and:

- a) to conduct marine scientific research during such navigation in Baffin Bay from approximately mid-June through August 2003; and,
- b) to transit the Northwest Passage in mid-August 2003 en route to Barrow, Alaska where it will conduct bathymetric mapping of the Northwind Escarpment north of Alaska outside the Canadian Exclusive Economic Zone during early September 2003.

The Department notes the assurances provided by the Embassy that the *Healy* will

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operate in a manner consistent with the pollution control standards and other standards of the *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act* and other relevant Canadian laws and regulations, and that costs incurred as a result of discharge from the vessel, including containment, clean up and disposal costs incurred by the United States or Canada, and any damage that is the actual result, will be the responsibility of the United States Government, in accordance with international law. The Department also expects that, in all other respects, reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent pollution resulting from the *Healy's* activities.

The Department is pleased to inform the Embassy that the Government of Canada consents:

- a) to the *Healy's* navigation within the waters covered by the *Agreement* as described above, and,
- b) to the conduct of marine scientific research during such navigation, including the evaluation of all scientific equipment and sensors on board and integrated marine systems performance trials. The Department notes that the information obtained in such research will be shared as envisioned in the *Agreement*.

The Department is also pleased to inform the Embassy that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will make available on-board participants during the proposed transit by the

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Healy. Canadian officials will contact the United States Coast Guard directly to make the necessary arrangements.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.



OTTAWA, July 2, 2003